

Patent Claims:

1. An image capturing apparatus (16) with an image capturing unit (1) and an image fitting surface (31), *characterized in that* the optical axis (6) of the image capturing unit (1) is disposed at an angle α to a normal (7) of the image fitting surface (31).
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2. The image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in claim 1, *characterized in that* the angle α is more than 2° , preferably more than 5° .
- 10 3. The image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in any of the claims 1 or 2, *characterized in that* the angle α is less than 50° or less than 35° , preferably less than 30° .
- 15 4. The image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in any of the claims 1 through 3, *characterized in that* the image capturing unit (1) comprises an angle of sight β of less than 30° , preferably of less than 15° .
- 20 5. The image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in any of the claims 1 through 4, *characterized in that* the image capturing unit (1) comprises a focal length that is more than double, preferably more than four times, the size of the maximum diagonal of an image capturing sensor of the image capturing unit (1).
- 25 6. The image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in any of the claims 1 through 5, *characterized in that* the angle α is at least half the size of the angle of sight β of the image capturing unit (1), preferably at least the same size as the angle of sight β of the image capturing unit (1).
- 30 7. The image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in any of the claims 1 through 6, *characterized in that* an optical device (33) is disposed between the image capturing unit (1) and the image fitting surface (31).
8. The image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in any of the claims 1 through 7, *characterized by* a lighting device (39).

9. The image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in claim 8, *characterized in that* the lighting device (39) comprises light-emitting diodes (40) as the light-emitting means.
- 5 10. The image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in claim 9, *characterized in that* the light-emitting means are disposed in immediate proximity to the image capturing unit (1).
- 10 11. The image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in any of the claims 8 through 10, *characterized in that* the lighting device (39) comprises colored light-emitting means, preferably colored light-emitting diodes (14).
- 15 12. The image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in any of the claims 1 through 11, *characterized by* at least one optical screen (12) that is disposed outside of a light path (4) of the image capturing unit (1).
13. The image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in claim 12, *characterized in that* the optical screen (12) is disposed between the image fitting surface (31) and the image capturing unit (1) and/or a lighting device (39).
- 20 14. The image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in any of the claims 12 or 13, *characterized in that* the optical screen (12) comprises a light-absorbing surface (13) and that the light-absorbing surface is turned toward the image fitting surface (31).
- 25 15. The image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in any of the claims 1 through 14, *characterized by* a housing (17) portions of which comprise a translucent material.
16. The image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in claim 15, *characterized in that* the translucent material is a reflection-reducing material, preferably an anti-reflection glass.
- 30 17. The image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in any of the claims 1 through 16, *characterized by* a positioning device (20).

18. The image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in claim 17, *characterized in that* the positioning device (20) comprises a protection means, preferably a padding, that protects an object placed on the positioning device (20) from damage and that moreover shields, together with the object, the image capturing unit (1) from ambient light (28).

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19. A method of capturing an image shown in a display (2; 26), *characterized in that* an image capturing unit (1) is held obliquely relative to the display (2; 26).
20. The method as set forth in claim 19, *characterized in that* the display (2; 26) is substantially placed onto an image fitting surface (31).

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21. The method as set forth in any of the claims 19 or 20, *characterized in that* the display (2; 26) is illuminated during image capturing by light having a wavelength of between 450 nm, preferably between 500 nm and 600 nm, preferably of 550 nm.

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22. The method as set forth in any of the claims 19 through 21, *characterized in that* the display (2; 26) is lit by light beams of a lighting device (39) and that the light beams travel substantially along a light path (4) of the image capturing unit (1).

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23. An arrangement (10; 14) consisting of an image capturing unit (1) and of a display (2; 26), *characterized in that* the optical axis (6) of the image capturing unit (1) is disposed at an angle α to the normal (7) of the display (2; 26).
24. Use of an image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in any of the claims 1 through 18 and/or use of an arrangement (10; 14) as set forth in claim 23 for capturing an image from a display (2), more specifically from an LC-display (26) or from a specular reflecting surface (11).

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25. Use of an image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in any of the claims 1 through 18 and/or use of an arrangement (10; 14) as set forth in claim 23 for capturing an image from a surface that is covered by at least one transparent layer (32).

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26. Use of an image capturing apparatus (16) as set forth in any of the claims 1 through 18 and/or use of an arrangement (10; 14) as set forth in claim 23 for reading an optical code (25) that is preferably displayed on a display (2; 26) or on a specular reflecting surface (11).